

NORTHAMPTON TOWN  
F.C.



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# THE COBBLER



Football League Division Four  
**NORTHAMPTON TOWN**

**v**  
**WIGAN ATHLETIC**

Tuesday, February 3rd, 1981  
Kick-off 7.30 p.m.  
Match Magazine 25p

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**HON. CLUB DENTAL SURGEON:**  
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# THE CLUB COLUMN

*ONE point at Southend in the last away match may not sound a triumph, but it was very satisfying for manager Bill Dodgin and his team to be the first to crack United's 100 per cent record at Roots Hall this season.*

*In fact it was the first point Southend have dropped at home in 18 matches, and it was forced by a solid all-round performance. It was definitely not a backs-to-the-wall survival battle by our lads — Bill does not like them to play that way. They came out well to share the action.*

*Southend had four chances in the match, and found Andy Poole in agile form, while we had two or three openings ourselves that could have brought the winner.*

*With Des Waldock a flu victim for the Southend match Kevin Farmer was switched to the centre of the defence after more than a year of playing as a striker, and made a valuable contribution, just as he had done several days before when manager Dodgin tried him at centre-half in the reserves.*

*Still, regular supporters will remember that when Kevin arrived at Northampton from Leicester City in August 1979 it was as a centre-half. He started the 1979-80 season in that position, lost his place and then was switched up front from then on.*

*At the time of writing these notes — before the Bournemouth match — we faced a run of four home matches out of five, which offered, obviously, yet another chance for us to push back up the table.*

*After tonight's game we have to visit Doncaster, and then come home clashes with Hartlepool, who are battling away among the promotion candidates, and Hereford.*

*Apart from our crash at Lincoln in October we have proved ourselves capable of at least holding our own with any side in the League. We believe the signs are there for lasting success but the only way to be certain is for the team to go on proving it out on the field.*



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# WELCOME · TO · OUR · VISITORS

## WIGAN ATHLETIC

IN this their third season in the Football League Wigan find themselves nearer the bottom than the top of Division Four and the possibility of emulating their achievements of the last two seasons in finishing on the edge of the promotion race now seems an extremely unlikely one.

It was after no fewer than 25 attempts that Wigan Athletic, who rose from the ashes of former League Club Wigan Borough in 1932, finally gained election to the Football League in 1978.

They had piled up an impressive list of Cheshire League and Lancashire Combination Championships during this time and during the early 'Seventies twice topped the Northern Premier League.

They also pulled off a number of creditable F.A. Cup feats such as a win over Sheffield Wednesday in December 1977.

This might just have swung the balance when they just pipped Workington for a Fourth Division place in the following summer and they then proceeded to finish in sixth place in both 1978/79 and 1979/80.

In addition they reached the fourth round of the F.A. Cup last season after beating Blackpool and Chelsea en route and ended on a high note with an unbeaten run of eight games.

### THIS SEASON

Another gratifying feature of the past two seasons was that their gates consistently topped those of several Third Division clubs and even this season when results have not been so good they have only three times slipped below the 4,000 mark.

It is in fact their home form that has been rather shaky and up to the time of writing they have not won at Springfield Park since beating us there on November 12.

Their away form has, however, improved recently with wins at Crewe and Stockport and a draw at Hereford.

Injuries have also been rather a serious problem recently but **PETER HOUGHTON**, top scorer in each of the last two seasons, has found his shooting boots again recently and **TONY QUINN**, has proved a consistent scorer since making his debut just over a year ago.

**JEFF WRIGHT** has been an ever-present in each of the last two seasons on the left side of the

midfield and is likely to be joined in the engine-room by **BOBBY HUTCHINSON**, a close-season signing from Hibernian, diminutive **DAVE McMULLEN**, a home-grown product, and **GEORGE URQUHART**, who came from Ross County last season.

In defence **COLIN METHVEN** came from East Fife two years ago and has been joined in the centre by **ALEX CRIBLEY**, a recent acquisition, with **DAVE FRETWELL**, now nearing 250 League games in a career that started with Bradford City, and either **FRANK CORRIGAN** an ex-Walsall, Northwich and Burton man or **DAVE McADAM**, another newcomer this season, on the flanks.

In goal **BOB WARD** after previous experience with West Brom. and Blackpool has taken over this season from long-serving ex-Preston man **JOHN BROWN**.

### IN RETROSPECT NORTHAMPTON TOWN v WIGAN

#### DIVISION FOUR

1978/79 Northampton 2 (Froggatt, Bryant)

Wigan 4 (Brownbill 2, Purdie, Corrigan)

**NORTHAMPTON:** Jayes; Geidmintis, Mead, Woollett, Robertson, Bryant, Farrington (Ashenden), Saunders, Froggatt, Reilly, McCaffrey.

**WIGAN:** Brown; Smart, Hannigan, Gore, Ward, Fretwell, Corrigan (Crompton), Wright, Moore, Brownbill, Purdie.

Attendance: 2,275.

Wigan 2 (Purdie 2, 1 pen) Northampton 0

1979/80 Northampton 1 (Sargent) Wigan 1 (Shearer)

**NORTHAMPTON:** Poole; Walker, Sandercock, Saunders, Gage, Farrington, Denyer, Sargent, McCaffrey, Sandy, Ingram.

**WIGAN:** Brown; Fretwell (McMullen), Whittle, Gore, Methven, Davids, Quinn M., Wright, Houghton, Shearer, Urquhart.

Attendance: 2,378

1980/81 Wigan 3 (Quinn 2, Urquhart) Northampton 0



**BACK (left to right) — Tony Quinn, Mike Quinn, George McAllister, Lawrence Tarnery, Jeff Wright, Paul Heedy, David Tall. Middle — Ian Gillibrand (coach), George Uquhar, Jim Oliver, Neil Davids, John Budge, Bob Ward, Colin McNeill, Peter Houghton, Frank Conaghan, Ken Banks (trainers/coach). Front — Maurice White, Mark Wignall, John Curtis, Tommy Gane, Ian McNeill (manager), Dave McMurran, Bob Hutchinson, David Glen, Dave Fretwell.**

**BOB WARD** (Goalkeeper), Ht: 6'11", Wt: 12st. As a boy, Bob supported his local side West Bromwich Albion, and he has had the double experience of playing at The Hawthorns both for and against Albion. After leaving school, he played as an amateur for West Brom, eventually turning professional in 1978 and making 15 first-team appearances. He later joined Blackpool for a £20,000 fee and made his debut for the Seagulls in an F.A. Cup tie at West Bromwich. He made 41 League appearances for Blackpool before joining Wigan last summer. Unfortunately, an early season injury restricted his appearances for his new club, but he signs as that he will be pushing hard for a first team place in the coming season.

**DAVE FRETWELL** (Defender), Ht: 5'8", Wt: 10st 12lbs. Played as a schoolboy for Yorkshire and England at under-18 level, before studying industrial management at Bradford University. As a part-timer, he played regularly for Bradford City in the Third and Fourth Divisions of the Football League, and comfortably made the transition from part-time to full-time. He made 260 appearances for the Yorkshire club before sampling the American soccer scene in California. On his return, he joined Wigan Athletic for whom he has been a most reliable and consistent performer over the past two seasons.

**GEORGE UQUHAR** (Midfielder), Ht: 5'11", Wt: 12st. Joined his former boss Ian McNeill from Rose County for a nominal fee last year. Born in Glasgow, he won Scottish amateur international honours against England and Ireland before signing for St. Mirren in 1968. After three seasons there, he had one year with Guildford in the Southern League before joining Mr. McNeill in a very successful Rose County side. Last season, George performed a key role in lightening up the midfield unit and the high spot of his season was a very fine game against Everton's Alex Hartford in a Fourth Round F.A. Cup tie played at Goodison Park.

**JEFF WRIGHT** (Midfielder), Ht: 6'11", Wt: 11st 10lbs. Born in Aleton in Cumbria, Jeff worked at the local factory after leaving Grammar School. Played for both Town & Law in the Northern League and Northfield in the Northern Premier League before joining Wigan in 1974. He has shined in many of Wigan's F.A. Cup triumphs at non-league and Football League levels — victories over Shrewsbury Town, York City and Sheffield Wednesday while a non-league player and Blackpool and Crewe as a Football League player — will long remain as highlights in his memory. Ever present for the past two seasons, Jeff is a key member of Wigan's first team squad.

**COLIN McNEILL** (Defender), Ht: 6'11", Wt: 12st 4lbs. Manager Ian McNeill's deep knowledge of Scottish football enabled him to search out this strong and positive player who became Wigan's second signing at a fee of £30,000 from East Fife in October, 1979. It was soon obvious that the money had been well-spent, for Colin, good in the air and strong in the tackle, soon took over as Captain of the Wigan side and led his men to glory in last year's F.A. Cup competition. The key figure in Wigan's defensive organisation, McNeill looks forward eagerly to a promotion-challenging year ahead.

**PETER HOUGHTON** (Forward), Ht: 5'11", Wt: 12st 7lbs. Another member of Wigan's Merseyside contingent, Peter was in the Liverpool Schoolboys' team which won the English Schools Trophy. He joined the Ford Motor Company as a Maintenance Fitter and stayed with them until becoming a full-time professional in July, 1978. As a part-time professional, he joined Wigan from South Liverpool, having previously played with Preston Town. Although handicapped by a wrist injury, he was Wigan's top scorer in his first year in League Football, and repeated the feat last year, when he might have joined Portsmouth in an attractive transfer deal, but declined the opportunity. Sure to figure among the Fourth Division's leading goalscorers in the coming year and currently Wigan's hottest property.

**TONY QUINN** (Forward), Ht: 5'10", Wt: 11st. With Everton as a junior for three seasons before joining Formby, young Tony moved "across the park" to Liverpool and played in their 'A' team which won the Lancashire League and also helped Liverpool County F.A. to win the English F.A. County Youth Cup. From Liverpool,

he joined Wigan and quickly proved an outstanding marksman. Topped the Lancashire League scoring list in 1978/79, and scored in his first five full games for Wigan's Football League side. Although he lost his way a little towards the end of last season, Quinn still has time on his side and may well push for a first-team spot in the coming season.

**MIKE QUINN** (Forward), Ht: 5'10", Wt: 12st 3lbs. This Liverpool-born player, no relative of Tony, enjoyed a "Roy of the Rivers" title to fame last season in the Wigan colours. Having seen service with Tranmere Rovers and Derby County in his post-school years, Mike was a key member in last year's Athletic Youth XI. Before the end of the season, he was to play and score for the first team at Football League level. A strong, bustling player, young Quinn is expected to push hard for a first team place this season.

**DAVID McMURRAN** (Midfielder), Ht: 5'5", Wt: 10st 3lbs. Signed last year from Cumbrian United, a Scottish junior club, young David was restricted to several substitute appearances in the closing games. In his first appearance this year, against East Fife, this skilful young player scored a fine last-minute winning goal, and he is expected to earn an early chance to establish himself at Springfield Park.

**BOBBY HUTCHINSON** (Forward), Ht: 5'9", Wt: 11st 4lbs. Glasgow-born Bobby, a quick moving striker, is expected to give the Wigan Athletic side added skill and experience up front. Formerly a player with Dundee and Hibernian.

**JOHN BROWN** (Goalkeeper), Ht: 6'11", Wt: 12st 7lbs. Bradford-born John was an apprentice keeper before he stepped into League Football with Preston at 17. His progress at Deepdale was hindered by the reliable Eric Ivimey, Alan Kelly, and after spending 1½ years with North End, he was released in 1975. He has been one season with Stockport County before joining Wigan Athletic, for whom he has been a most reliable and efficient keeper at both non-league and Football League levels.

**JOHN CURTIS** (Defender), Ht: 5'8", Wt: 10st 3lbs. Another ex-Seagull, who has found a new lease of life at Springfield Park. After a bright opening to his career at Blackburn Road, the Poulton-to-Pyle-born defender moved on to Blackburn Rovers, a club at which he never really justified his true potential. After a short period on loan to Wigan Athletic at the end of the 1976-77 season, John finally signed up for Wigan on a full contract only to be crucially injured in his tracks by a leg fracture which left him on the sidelines for all but a handful of last season's games. After training hard during the close season, John is set to make a real push for a first team place in the months ahead.

**FRANK CONIGHAN** (Midfielder), Ht: 5'10", Wt: 11st 12lbs. Although he will miss the early games of the new season, because of injury, the enthusiastic Liverpool-born player will soon be back again as an established member of the Wigan Athletic side. As a semi-professional, Frank played for Wigan, Burton Albion, Bangor City and Northwich Victoria before joining Wigan. Both with Northwich and Wigan, Conighan has experienced all the joy of a Cup giant-killing, and after making his move into full-time Football League soccer, when Wigan stepped up in status, this skilful and experienced player has gone from strength to strength. He will be a key-man in Manager McNeill's planning for the coming campaign.

**NEIL DAVIDS** (Defender), Ht: 6'0", Wt: 12st 5lbs. Originating from Shigley, near Bradford, Neil played for Yorkshire Schools at right back before joining Leeds United. The highlight of his five years at Elland Road was scoring the winning goal for England's Youth Team against Wales, but he did not make his league debut until he joined Northwich City. After two years at Currier Road, and loan spells with Northampton Town and Stockport County, he joined Swansea City. However, this strong, aggressive defender never settled in Wales and joined Wigan before the start of their first year in League Football. Neil did not make an immediate impact at Springfield Park, but last year his positive style of play endeared him to the local fans and the popular Yorkshireman made a first team spot his own.



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# SEASON BY SEASON

## 1936/37

We returned to seventh position in the table, with exactly the same points tally as two years earlier. We won six league games in a row at the end of the old year to provide consolation for a shock 6-1 defeat by Walthamstow Avenue in the first round of the F.A. Cup.

### LEAGUE—DIVISION III (SOUTH)

|                    | P  | W  | D  | L  | Goals  | Pts |
|--------------------|----|----|----|----|--------|-----|
| Luton Town         | 42 | 27 | 4  | 11 | 103-53 | 58  |
| Notts County       | 42 | 23 | 10 | 9  | 74-52  | 56  |
| Brighton & Hove A. | 42 | 24 | 5  | 13 | 74-43  | 53  |
| Watford            | 42 | 19 | 11 | 12 | 85-60  | 49  |
| Reading            | 42 | 19 | 11 | 12 | 76-60  | 49  |
| Bournemouth        |    |    |    |    |        |     |
| & Bos. Ath.        | 42 | 20 | 9  | 13 | 65-59  | 49  |
| Northampton Town   | 42 | 20 | 6  | 16 | 85-68  | 46  |
| Millwall           | 42 | 18 | 10 | 14 | 64-54  | 46  |
| Queen's Park R.    | 42 | 18 | 9  | 15 | 73-52  | 45  |
| Southend United    | 42 | 17 | 11 | 14 | 78-67  | 45  |
| Gillingham         | 42 | 18 | 8  | 16 | 52-66  | 44  |
| Leyton Orient      | 42 | 14 | 15 | 13 | 52-52  | 43  |
| Swindon Town       | 42 | 14 | 11 | 17 | 75-73  | 39  |
| Crystal Palace     | 42 | 13 | 12 | 17 | 62-61  | 38  |
| Bristol Rovers     | 42 | 16 | 4  | 22 | 71-80  | 36  |
| Bristol City       | 42 | 15 | 6  | 21 | 58-70  | 36  |
| Walsall            | 42 | 13 | 10 | 19 | 62-84  | 36  |
| Cardiff City       | 42 | 14 | 7  | 21 | 54-87  | 35  |
| Newport County     | 42 | 12 | 10 | 20 | 67-98  | 34  |
| Torquay United     | 42 | 11 | 10 | 21 | 57-80  | 32  |
| Exeter City        | 42 | 10 | 12 | 20 | 59-88  | 32  |
| Aldershot          | 42 | 7  | 9  | 26 | 50-89  | 23  |

### Results

|      |    |                     |     |     |  |  |
|------|----|---------------------|-----|-----|--|--|
| 1936 |    |                     |     |     |  |  |
| Aug  | 29 | Swindon Town        | (a) | 0-2 |  |  |
|      | 31 | Aldershot           | (h) | 5-3 |  |  |
| Sep  | 5  | Millwall            | (h) | 2-2 |  |  |
|      | 9  | Aldershot           | (a) | 2-0 |  |  |
|      | 12 | Bristol Rovers      | (a) | 0-2 |  |  |
|      | 16 | Southend United     | (a) | 0-2 |  |  |
|      | 19 | Torquay United      | (h) | 3-0 |  |  |
|      | 26 | Bournemouth & Bosc. | (h) | 0-0 |  |  |
| Oct  | 3  | Brighton & Hove.    | (a) | 2-1 |  |  |
|      | 10 | Watford             | (h) | 0-1 |  |  |
|      | 17 | Notts County        | (a) | 2-3 |  |  |
|      | 24 | Clapton Orient      | (h) | 1-1 |  |  |
|      | 31 | Walsall             | (a) | 2-2 |  |  |
| Nov  | 7  | Luton Town          | (h) | 3-1 |  |  |
|      | 14 | Cardiff City        | (a) | 1-2 |  |  |
|      | 21 | Crystal Palace      | (h) | 2-0 |  |  |
| Dec  | 5  | Reading             | (h) | 2-1 |  |  |
|      | 19 | Bristol City        | (h) | 5-1 |  |  |
|      | 25 | Newport County      | (h) | 3-2 |  |  |
|      | 26 | Swindon Town        | (h) | 4-0 |  |  |

|      |    |                     |     |     |
|------|----|---------------------|-----|-----|
| 1937 | 28 | Newport County      | (a) | 3-1 |
| Jan  | 2  | Millwall            | (a) | 0-1 |
|      | 9  | Bristol Rovers      | (h) | 4-1 |
|      | 20 | Exeter City         | (a) | 5-2 |
|      | 23 | Torquay United      | (a) | 0-5 |
| Feb  | 6  | Brighton & Hove.    | (h) | 2-0 |
|      | 13 | Watford             | (a) | 1-4 |
|      | 18 | Queen's Pk Rangers  | (a) | 2-3 |
|      | 20 | Notts County        | (h) | 1-1 |
|      | 27 | Clapton Orient      | (a) | 1-3 |
| Mar  | 6  | Walsall             | (h) | 6-3 |
|      | 13 | Luton Town          | (a) | 2-3 |
|      | 20 | Cardiff City        | (h) | 2-0 |
|      | 26 | Gillingham          | (a) | 0-2 |
|      | 27 | Crystal Palace      | (a) | 2-2 |
|      | 29 | Gillingham          | (h) | 5-0 |
| Apr  | 3  | Exeter City         | (h) | 2-1 |
|      | 10 | Reading             | (a) | 1-3 |
|      | 17 | Queen's Pk Rangers  | (h) | 0-1 |
|      | 21 | Bournemouth & Bosc. | (a) | 2-3 |
|      | 24 | Bristol City        | (a) | 1-0 |
| May  | 1  | Southend United     | (h) | 4-3 |

### THE F.A. CUP:

1st round Nov 28 Walthamstow Ave., away, 1-6

### THE THIRD DIVISION CUP:

1st round: Torquay United, 0-5.

### APPEARANCES:

|                 |    |               |    |
|-----------------|----|---------------|----|
| Allen R.S.L.    | 30 | Mackie J.A.   | 11 |
| Bell T.         | 5  | Rawlings J.S. | 40 |
| Cave W.         | 1  | Riches L.A.   | 34 |
| Cook C.         | 6  | Riley H.      | 13 |
| Dunkley M.E.F.  | 2  | Robson T.     | 2  |
| Gormlie W.J.    | 41 | Russell S.J.  | 31 |
| Hewitt J.J.     | 18 | Simpson W.    | 42 |
| Hoult A.G.      | 1  | Thayne W.     | 42 |
| Lauderdale J.H. | 25 | Tolland D.    | 35 |
| Little J.       | 41 | Turner G.     | 12 |
| Lyman C.C.      | 30 |               |    |

## AWAY MATCH SPONSORS

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# ACTION

*Gallery*

DES WALDOCK makes sure against Mansfield as he clears with a powerful header.  
Picture — Chronicle & Echo.







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Our On Target cover personality today is Manchester United's Scottish midfield dynamo **LOU MACARI**. Height 5'5½", weight 11 stone. Born Edinburgh, previous club Celtic.

## Personality Profile

by Derek Henderson

### MARK WARK! A TRIBUTE TO JOHN

While Ipswich Town continue to earn the admiration of all the uncommitted neutrals for their marvellous run over the past 12 months, the development of one man has particularly delighted manager Bobby Robson.

John Wark, Glasgow-born and a Scottish international who is surely going to play a big part in the national side as in his club team, has wowed the Portman Road this season with his goal-plundering.

But that is a bonus for Wark and for Ipswich — for his main role has been playing in front of their back line, collecting the ball and distributing it forward for the use of not only the front-runners, but also those two skilful Dutchmen Arnold Muhren and Frans Thijssen.

But suddenly this term Wark has been the man popping up in all sorts of positions and whacking in some tremendous goals, many of which have been seen on television as the cameras, not surprisingly, follow Ipswich's progress all over the land.

In Town's first 15 games, he ran in 12 goals — and that's the sort of marksmanship any of our leading strikers would not only be proud of, but which few of them were able to match.

Wark, who first played for Scotland against Wales last year, was dropped from the international side — but after this early-season form in front of goal, who could blame Scotland chief Jack Stein for recalling him.

Of course, with fame comes harder times. His marksmanship has meant only one thing — defences know that here is another blue-shirted player with menace in his head and boots, and more attention has been paid to him. But he explains: "If they're watching me that closely, that gives a little more room to the other lads."

Confidence is one of the great factors in a successful football team and that is the quality you will find most in evidence in the Ipswich ranks right now.

Ipswich have proved that you don't need to be a big-city team to succeed in the First Division, and Wark — a virtual unknown until a couple of seasons ago — has now become one of the League's hottest properties after fewer than 180 League games.

Look everywhere in the Ipswich team and you will find talent — every man an international except Paul Cooper and he's one of the best uncapped 'keepers in the business.

Wark has found a new belief in himself thanks to the men around him as much as any other factor. The effect on Paul Mariner, Eric Gates and Alan Brazil knowing that there's a man like Wark around to score goals if they fall anything short of their own intentions, must be very comforting.

It's one of the reasons why this could be Ipswich's championship year....

## Soccer Spotlight

### A Fresh Challenge to Venables

by Derek Henderson

In a game used to overnight, dramatic changes, the move of Terry Venables from Crystal Palace to Queen's Park Rangers was something of a shock.

At the start of this season, with Venables — soccer's 'Cheeky Chappie' — at the helm at Selhurst Park, such a move would have been deemed extremely unlikely.

But if a week is a long time in politics, then a day or two can be an age in football. And scarcely had the Palace fans recovered from a bad start to the First Division programme, and rumours that things weren't as they ought to be between board and manager, then came the surprise of Venables's departure.

Venables puts all that behind him now, as, indeed he has to, if he is to make anything with the pieces he collected in the wake of Tommy Docherty at Loftus Road.

He inherited some fine players, but somehow Rangers — who not so long ago lost out by a whisker in a bid for the First Division championship — had fallen away and results were poor.

Allan Harris, brother of Ron of Chelsea fame, was Terry's No. 2 at Palace and he quickly joined his colleague across London. And with Scot George Graham on the QPR backroom staff as well, there is a wealth of experience and coaching talent in this trio, even though the years may be comparatively few in terms of other managerial 'teams'.

As a player, Venables never lacked confidence in his spells with Chelsea, Tottenham and Palace. He was always an assured performer with a skill bordering on the arrogant at times.

At managerial level, he has lost none of that confidence of yesteryear, although of course the task confronting him daily is of considerable proportions compared with that of a player.

Q.P.R. have never been the best-supported of clubs despite a strategic place in the metropolis and this is one of the problems facing him. The potential he left behind him at Palace is far greater in comparison.

But there is a tradition of open, adventurous football at Loftus Road going back many years and he aims to foster that tradition.

Venables guided Palace back into Division II and with time and patience, he could repeat the feat with Rangers. It is likely to take a season or two, for Venables says the situation he found there is akin to the one he discovered when first in control of the South London club.

However much he pushes the Palace business into the back of his mind, there is no doubt that Venables has grown up, managerially speaking, as a result.

These are the milestones any manager has to pass on football's rocky path. In years to come he will look back on the experience as just one of those things.

But, for sure, he will not regret it too much, for these things happen all too frequently in soccer and one must accept them as part of the game's pattern.

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with JOHN KING

With most of the World looking to Spain in 1982 and the World Cup Finals, the eyes of the fans in Uruguay are looking no further than the next few weeks for their own Mundialito, or Little World Cup. The competition, which takes place in Montevideo between December 30th and January 10th, is for previous winners of the World Cup, excluding England who preferred not to take part and whose place has been taken by Holland as runners-up of the last two competitions.

Whilst most of the participants will no doubt be looking at the competition as part of their build up for the real thing in Spain, the hosts are taking the whole thing very seriously indeed — to the extent of offering their players 10,000 dollars to win the trophy.

A keen desire to win is one thing, but whether the Uruguayans really do have the ability to do so is something else. In recent internationals they could manage only a 0-0 draw at home to Chile, hardly one of the giants of the game, and a second goalless draw away to Brazil. Admittedly a draw in Brazil would seem on paper to be a fair result, but the Brazilians themselves have not been enjoying too much success of late, and the game was by all accounts somewhat of a non-event.

International success has become something of a rarity in Uruguay in recent years. In the 1979 South American Championships they were able to finish only second in their qualifying group behind the eventual winners Paraguay, and in the process they even managed to suffer a 2-1 defeat (their first in fourteen meetings) at the hands of lowly and unfancied Ecuador. They were also absent from the 1978 World Cup Finals in Argentina having been dumped out in the qualifying stages by Bolivia.

Success during the next few weeks has therefore become a

matter of national importance, after which they must turn their attention towards qualifying for Spain. For this second exercise they have been drawn in a qualifying group with Peru and Colombia, no easy task to say the least, and one which at this stage looks beyond them.

They may, however, draw a little encouragement from last season's champions Nacional who during the summer won the Libertadores Cup, the South American Club Championship, the first time a Uruguayan side had done so for nine years. Previous Uruguayan winners had been Penarol in 1960, 1961 and 1966, and Nacional themselves in 1971.

Nacional recently strengthened their position as the country's leading club side by winning the championship for the second year running, but only after making hard work of it. Mid-way through the season they led the table by a street and looked to have the title in their pockets, then they began to stutter, and although they only needed one point to clinch the championship from their last six games it wasn't until the very last game of the season that they made sure of it by drawing at home whilst their nearest challengers Wanderers lost. Penarol finished in third place.

In trying to build a successful national side Coach Roque Maspoli faces the one big problem which has always dogged Uruguay, namely that of trying to keep his best players in the country. Over the years Uruguay has produced many great players but almost always they have joined the great exodus to foreign soil where the financial rewards are so much greater. Unless Maspoli — who was Uruguay's goalkeeper in their last World Cup success in 1950 — can begin to solve that problem it seems likely that success will continue to pass him by.



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Goals were "Wor Jackie's" trademark, and the England selectors soon found a ready replacement for the famous Tommy Lawton in Jackie, and he represented his country on thirteen occasions.

Wembley was his oyster and he scored both goals in the 1951 Cup Final, Blackpool being the victims. He did not score in the 1952 Final when United beat Arsenal 1-0, but made up for this in the 1955 Final when he scored the quickest cup final goal.

Jackie left Tyneside in 1957 to go across the sea to Linfield in Ireland where, as player-manager, he won another cup winners' medal, this time an Irish one.

Jackie returned to England to take up English League management but found it to be not his cup of tea.



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# WILL THIS BE ASTON

asks DEREK

The slumbering giant has awakened at last. Aston Villa, one of the Football League's original forces, with probably more tradition of greatness than any other English club, are on the march again.

This is not only a good thing for the Midlands, but also a tremendous boost for the game in general for the north have far too long dominated the championship scene over the past two or three decades.

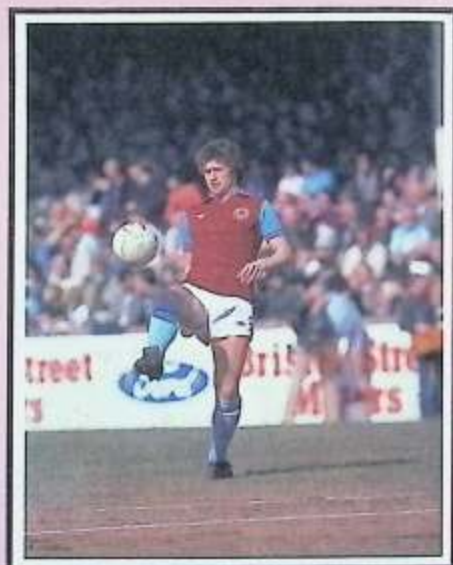
The Midlands has won its share of cups, true. But the prize they all want to carry off — the League title — has been something they have talked about at Villa Park, rather than participated in.

It is 70 years since Villa won the League championship — and that's far too long in anybody's book. Can they do it again at last, under the shrewd guidance of their manager Ron Saunders?

It is too early to tell. But the giant is up and about again after its protracted sleep and is quickly finding its feet.

The big games at Villa Park are no longer somebody else's — FA Cup semi-finals or representative fixtures. Every other week now there is a big game on this magnificent old ground, absolutely haunted by past memories of such famous names as Pongo Waring, Harry Hampton, Billy Walker, and since the war George Cummings, Con Martin, Peter McParland, Jackie Sewell, Nigel Sims, Jimmy Dugdale and so on.

Two of the biggest managerial names in the game — Joe Mercer and Tommy Docherty — have felt what it is like to try to revive those long-lost Villa glories, and have only partially tasted success. Both were inevitably rewarded with the sack, but then that has long since ceased to be an ignominy in the



Defender Ken Swain currently back to form in the Villa defence.

British game — almost a seal of merit.

Saunders himself may have been perilously near the same sort of treatment during his time at Villa Park, but the experience is not new to him for it happened after he had had a short spell with Manchester City.

Boardroom wrangling has not helped Villa's cause down the years, but happily all seems well these days, and perhaps this is one basic reason why the club are on top of the world at the moment, instead of just an also-ran in the scramble for First Division honours.

Saunders is a man of few words, and those he does utter are usually sensible and forceful. He believes in discipline and hard-work, just as his famous predecessor in the Midlands — Wolves' Stan Cullis — preached before him.

He has also resisted the temptation so far to do what many English clubs have done — and supplement his staff with a star

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# VILLA'S SEASON?

HENDERSON



foreign player or two.

Judging from their record and their performances so far this season, Villa don't need the injection of foreign talent. They have moulded a fine team around the midfield skills of Liverpoolian Dennis Mortimer and the talented Gordon Cowans, the reliability of goalkeeper Jimmy Rimmer and the promise and such fast-rising players as Alan Evans and Gary Shaw, alongside the impressive front-line leadership of Peter Withe.

Saunders' summer capture of Withe from Newcastle is a move fully approved by the thousands of Villa fans who were looking for a figure to put on a pedestal. It was £500,000 well spent, they reckon, and Withe has responded to it all by looking a player worth double that figure.

Those days when Villa sank into the Third Division and some struggle-sounding names cropped up on the club's fixture list, seem a long way away today. Indeed, it was only eight years ago, and those two seasons in the Third seemed like an age to fans brought up on something better.

But, as 'The Doc' used to say "If you put out a line of Villa shirts to dry, you'd get a gate of 10,000 to watch."

During the troubled times, a defender called Charlie Aitken, a Scottish full-back, set up a new club record of 560 League appearances. He was not the greatest of players, but his attitude personified the will within the club to overcome all hurdles.

Villa are seven times winners of the FA Cup — one more than Blackburn and Newcastle — and were the first winners of the League Cup in 1961. The most recent success in this field was in 1977 when it took three matches for them to settle their argument with Everton.

But the last FA Cup success was in 1957 when Villa beat Manchester United 2-1 after one of the great Wembley controversies. This was when Peter McParland, the long-striding Irish winger with plenty of goal-punch, shoulder-charged goalkeeper Ray Wood.

In the incident, Wood broke a shoulder-bone and came back, strapped up to play on the wing. McParland's two goals sank United, but the controversy raged on for years that Villa had won it unfairly.

That's water under the bridge now, but it does serve to illustrate that while Villa's League title aspirations have been 'in mothballs' for many years, they have not been any slouches when it comes to picking up the occasional major cup success.

There are many people inside and outside the game who have no positive connections with Aston Villa, who are genuinely pleased that their revival seems to be in full swing.

As one whose job in the 1930s was to follow their fortunes home and away for a period of over four years, I must confess to having a soft spot for them. I also admit to seeking their results above most others on a Saturday night.

It's a long, hard road ahead strewn with such obstacles as Liverpool and Ipswich. But one of these days Villa's persistence will prevail.



Scottish midfield dynamo Des Bremner.

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# MEMORABLE MATCHES

## Liverpool v Borussia Moenchengladbach, 1977

by Derek Henderson

Rome has not always been a happy hunting ground for British sportsman, be they boxers, athletes, or footballers. But the evening of May 25, 1977 proved one of those occasions when the Union Jack flew high – and stayed high.

Both Glasgow Celtic and Manchester United had proved that the best of Scottish and English football was good enough to land the European Cup – the world's major club prize.

But some of us were beginning to wonder just how long it would be before another English side emulated the great United success against Benfica.

Moenchengladbach had much the more difficult hurdle in the semi-finals, only just getting through at the expense of Dynamo Kiev, while Liverpool were sauntering their way through to the final on a 6-1 aggregate against Zurich.

But on the Saturday prior to the European final, they had suffered an F.A. Cup Final defeat at the hands of Manchester United – not exactly the best preparation for Rome from a morale standpoint.

During the period between the two games, manager Bob Paisley gave considerable thought to how he should use Kevin Keegan. He opted for Keegan as a central striker, played Ian Callaghan in preference to David Johnson, and gave Steve Heighway a free role on the flanks. It proved a master stroke.

Terry McDermott put Liverpool ahead but an uncharacteristic mistake by Jimmy Case was punished by a Simonsen equaliser.

But then Liverpool took over. Tommy Smith's header put Liverpool ahead – one of the most valuable goals the hard man ever scored – and a thrust by Keegan proved decisive. As he zipped through the middle, full-back Bertie Vogts caught him from behind in sheer desperation.

Millions watching in Britain held their breath as Phil Neal took the vital penalty, and duly despatched it past goalkeeper Kneib.



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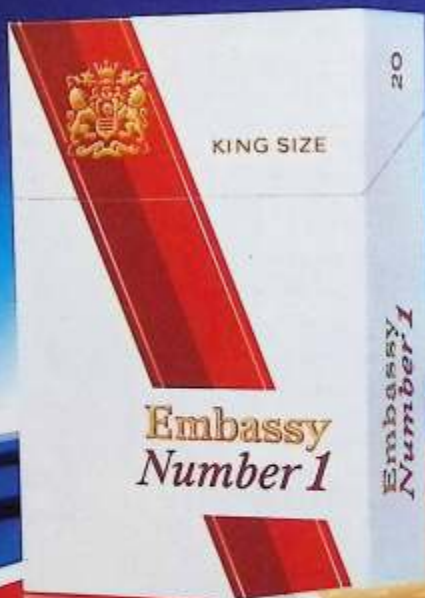
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# TOWN TALK

by Fred Speakman

THE Cobblers should go to Doncaster next Friday in good heart after their visits to Aldershot, Tranmere and Southend in January, because they made goalless draws away to two of the leading clubs.

One point from both Aldershot and Southend was satisfactory, and the side lost only 3-2 at Tranmere, through a late goal on a quagmire of a pitch.

The draw against Southend at Roots Hall must be acclaimed a real Northampton achievement for United had a remarkable home record up to then. They had played 15 home matches this season before entertaining the Cobblers and won them all — scoring 34 goals in the process.

In fact Southend, handsome leaders of Division Four so far, have found the Cobblers one of their big obstacles this season for they lost by two clear goals at the County Ground on September 23.

An earlier match at Northampton, on August 29, was abandoned at half time through floodlight failure, with no goals scored.

So, in a half-season where the Cobblers defence has been described as leaky in other games, it has denied top club Southend a single score in 225 minutes of football.

The visit to Doncaster will not be an easy one but the earlier results of 1981 do promise better away returns, which are so necessary for the Cobblers to climb in the League table.

Points and goals had come regularly on the County Ground in the last three months of 1980 — eight goals and 15 points — but a setback obviously had to come some time.

It arrived in the first home match of 1981 when promotion challengers Mansfield won here by the only goal. But, as all the 2985 spectators who saw the match must have agreed, it was well against the run of play. The Cobblers, however, with 70 per cent of the play, missed their chances and Mansfield took their one.



KEVIN FARMER

An interesting feature of the clean sheet the Cobblers kept at Southend was the return of Kevin Farmer as a centre-back.

Kevin was signed as a defender from Leicester City for £18,000 at the start of last season but played only eight matches in that position before being switched to the attack.

Kevin had previous experience as a striker and managers Clive Walker and Bill Dodgin combined to give him a total of 49 games up front.

But when Des Waldock went down with flu Dodgin tried Kevin at centre-back for the first time after seeing him play well for the reserves against a strong Portsmouth second string in a Midweek League game the previous Tuesday.

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# STATCHECK

## Season 1980-81

| Date     | Opponents              | Ground | F.A.  | Gate  | Andy Poole | Ricky Walker | Phil Sandcock | Walsley Gage | Dennis Byrill | Mark Healey | Peter Dwyer | Adam Sandy | Gary Sargent | Steve Phillips | Keith Brown | Gary Sazby | Des Wallock | Kevin Farmer | Paul Davidson | Keith Williams | David Carlton |
|----------|------------------------|--------|-------|-------|------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|------------|--------------|----------------|-------------|------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| Aug. 8   | READING (LC1).....     | H      | 0-2   | 3,294 | 1          | 2            | 3             | 4            | 7             | 8           | 9           | 10         | 11           | 6              | 5           | 12         |             |              |               |                |               |
| Aug. 13  | READING (LC1).....     | A      | 2-2   | 4,357 | 1          | 2            | 3             | 5            | 4             | 6           | 7           | 8          | 10/12        | 11             | 9           | 12         |             |              |               |                |               |
| Aug. 16  | DARLINGTON.....        | A      | 0-1   | 1,763 | 1          | 2            | 3             | 5            | 4             | 6           | 7           | 8          | 10           | 11             | 9           | 12         |             |              |               |                |               |
| Aug. 23  | A.F.C. BOURNEMOUTH...A | 0-0    | 2,876 | 1     | 12         |              |               | 5            | 4             | 6           | 2           | 7          | 9            | 10             | 11          | 3          | 8           |              |               |                |               |
| Aug. 27  | LEAGUE CUP 2 (1/L)     |        |       |       |            |              |               |              |               |             |             |            |              |                |             |            |             |              |               |                |               |
| Aug. 29  | SOUTHEND.....          | H      | 0-0*  | 2,517 | 1          | 12           |               | 5            | 4             | 6           | 2           | 7          | 9            | 10             | 11          | 3          | 8           |              |               |                |               |
| Sept. 3  | LEAGUE CUP 2 (2/L)     |        |       |       |            |              |               |              |               |             |             |            |              |                |             |            |             |              |               |                |               |
| Sept. 6  | HARTLEPOOL.....        | A      | 3-2   | 2,410 | 1          |              |               | 5            | 4             | 6           | 2           | 7          | 12           | 9/10           | 11/1        | 3          | 8           |              |               |                |               |
| Sept. 13 | DONCASTER.....         | H      | 0-2   | 2,280 | 1          |              |               | 5            | 4             | 6           | 2           | 12         | 9            | 10             | 11          | 3          | 8           |              |               |                |               |
| Sept. 17 | BRADFORD.....          | A      | 1-3   | 2,785 | 1          |              | 4             | 5            | 6             | 2           | 12          | 9/10       | 11           | 10             | 11          | 3          | 8           |              |               |                |               |
| Sept. 19 | YORK.....              | H      | 2-0   | 1,843 | 1          |              | 4             | 5            | 6             | 2           | 10          | 9/11       | 12/1         | 11             | 3           | 8          |             |              |               |                |               |
| Sept. 23 | SOUTHEND UTD.....      | H      | 2-0   | 2,337 | 1          |              | 4             | 5            | 6             | 2           | 10          | 9/11       | 12           | 11             | 3           | 8          |             |              |               |                |               |
| Sept. 27 | HEREFORD.....          | A      | 1-4   | 2,683 | 1          |              | 4             | 5            | 6             | 2           | 8           | 9/10       | 11           | 10             | 11          | 3          | 8           |              |               |                |               |
| Sept. 30 | BRADFORD.....          | H      | 0-1   | 2,280 | 1          |              | 4             | 5            | 6             | 2           | 11          | 9          | 10           | 11             | 3           | 8          |             |              |               |                |               |
| Oct. 3   | STOCKPORT.....         | H      | 0-1   | 2,902 | 1          |              | 4             | 5            | 6             | 2           | 10          | 9          | 12           | 11             | 3           | 8          |             |              |               |                |               |
| Oct. 7   | BURY.....              | A      | 3-1   | 1,779 | 1          |              | 4             | 5            | 6             | 8/11        | 12          | 10         | 9            | 10             | 11          | 3          | 8           |              |               |                |               |
| Oct. 11  | SCUNTHORPE.....        | A      | 2-0   | 1,902 | 1          |              | 4             | 5            | 6             | 8           | 12          | 9/12       | 10           | 11             | 3           | 8          |             |              |               |                |               |
| Oct. 17  | CREWE.....             | H      | 4-2   | 2,650 | 1          |              | 4             | 5            | 6             | 8           | 12          | 9/12       | 10           | 11             | 3           | 8          |             |              |               |                |               |
| Oct. 21  | ALDERSHOT.....         | H      | 2-0   | 2,179 | 1          | 3            | 5/1           | 7/10         | 12            | 9           | 11          | 10         | 11           | 3              | 8           |            |             |              |               |                |               |
| Oct. 25  | LINCOLN.....           | A      | 0-8   | 3,194 | 1          |              | 5             | 6            | 8             | 10          | 11          | 9          | 12           | 11             | 3           | 8          |             |              |               |                |               |
| Oct. 27  | MANSFIELD.....         | A      | 0-2   | 4,031 | 1          | 3            |               | 5            | 6             | 8           | 12          | 9          | 10           | 11             | 3           | 8          |             |              |               |                |               |
| Oct. 29  | LEAGUE CUP 4           |        |       |       |            |              |               |              |               |             |             |            |              |                |             |            |             |              |               |                |               |
| Oct. 31  | HALIFAX.....           | H      | 2-1   | 2,226 | 1          | 3            | 5             | 6            | 8             | 12          | 9/12        | 10         | 11           | 3              | 8           |            |             |              |               |                |               |
| Nov. 4   | BURY.....              | H      | 5-3   | 2,225 | 1          | 3            |               | 5            | 6             | 8/13        | 9           | 10         | 11           | 12             | 11          | 3          | 8           |              |               |                |               |
| Nov. 8   | WIMBLEDON.....         | A      | 0-1   | 2,029 | 1          | 3            |               | 5            | 6             | 8           | 9           | 11         | 12           | 10             | 11          | 3          | 8           |              |               |                |               |
| Nov. 12  | WIGAN.....             | A      | 0-3   | 3,375 | 1          | 3            |               | 5            | 6             | 8           | 9           | 11         | 12           | 10             | 11          | 3          | 8           |              |               |                |               |
| Nov. 15  | DARLINGTON.....        | H      | 2-2   | 1,656 | 1          | 3            | 7             | 8            | 11            | 9/11        | 10          | 12         | 11           | 3              | 8           |            |             |              |               |                |               |
| Nov. 22  | PETERBOROUGH FACI..... | H      | 1-4   | 5,542 | 1          | 3            | 5             | 12           | 11            | 8           | 9           | 11         | 10           | 11             | 3           | 8          |             |              |               |                |               |
| Nov. 29  | TRANMERE.....          | H      | 3-1   | 1,487 | 1          | 3            | 12            | 11           | 5             | 6/11        | 9/12        | 7          | 10           | 11             | 3           | 8          |             |              |               |                |               |
| Dec. 6   | TORQUAY.....           | A      | 3-3   | 2,065 | 1          | 3            | 5             | 11           | 10            | 6           | 9           | 12         | 12           | 11             | 3           | 8          |             |              |               |                |               |
| Dec. 20  | ROCHDALE.....          | H      | 3-1   | 1,706 | 1          | 3            | 5             | 11           | 6/11          | 8           | 9/11        | 10/11      | 12           | 4              | 11          | 3          | 8           |              |               |                |               |
| Dec. 26  | PETERBORO.....         | A      | 0-3   | 6,286 | 1          | 3            |               | 5            | 10            | 6           | 9           | 7          | 2            | 4              | 12          | 11         | 3           | 8            |               |                |               |
| Dec. 27  | PORT VALE.....         | H      | 5-1   | 2,979 | 1          | 3/1          |               | 5            | 6/11          | 8           | 9           | 12         | 4            | 11/11          | 7           |            |             |              |               |                |               |
| 1981     |                        |        |       |       |            |              |               |              |               |             |             |            |              |                |             |            |             |              |               |                |               |
| Jan. 3   | ALDERSHOT (3).....     | A      | 0-0   | 2,992 | 1          | 3            |               | 5            | 12            | 6           | 2           | 9          | 10           | 11             | 3           | 8          |             |              |               |                |               |
| Jan. 10  | MANSFIELD.....         | H      | 0-1   | 2,995 | 1          | 3            |               | 5            | 8             | 2           | 9           | 10         | 12           | 4              | 11          | 3          | 8           |              |               |                |               |
| Jan. 14  | LEAGUE CUP SF          |        |       |       |            |              |               |              |               |             |             |            |              |                |             |            |             |              |               |                |               |
| Jan. 16  | TRANMERE.....          | A      | 2-3   | 1,251 | 1          | 3            |               | 5            | 11            | 8           | 6           | 9          | 10           | 11             | 3           | 8          |             |              |               |                |               |
| Jan. 23  | SOUTHEND (4).....      | A      | 0-0   | 5,854 | 1          | 3            |               | 5            | 11            | 2           | 8           | 9          | 10           | 12             | 4           | 11         | 3           | 8            |               |                |               |
| Jan. 31  | A.F.C. BOURNEMOUTH...H |        |       |       |            |              |               |              |               |             |             |            |              |                |             |            |             |              |               |                |               |
| Feb. 3   | WIGAN.....             | H      |       |       |            |              |               |              |               |             |             |            |              |                |             |            |             |              |               |                |               |
| Feb. 6   | DONCASTER.....         | A      |       |       |            |              |               |              |               |             |             |            |              |                |             |            |             |              |               |                |               |
| Feb. 11  | LEAGUE CUP SF          |        |       |       |            |              |               |              |               |             |             |            |              |                |             |            |             |              |               |                |               |
| Feb. 14  | HARTLEPOOL (5).....    | H      |       |       |            |              |               |              |               |             |             |            |              |                |             |            |             |              |               |                |               |
| Feb. 21  | HEREFORD.....          | H      |       |       |            |              |               |              |               |             |             |            |              |                |             |            |             |              |               |                |               |
| Feb. 28  | YORK.....              | A      |       |       |            |              |               |              |               |             |             |            |              |                |             |            |             |              |               |                |               |
| Mar. 6   | STOCKPORT (6).....     | A      |       |       |            |              |               |              |               |             |             |            |              |                |             |            |             |              |               |                |               |
| Mar. 13  | SCUNTHORPE.....        | H      |       |       |            |              |               |              |               |             |             |            |              |                |             |            |             |              |               |                |               |
| Mar. 21  | CREWE.....             | H      |       |       |            |              |               |              |               |             |             |            |              |                |             |            |             |              |               |                |               |
| Mar. 28  | LINCOLN.....           | H      |       |       |            |              |               |              |               |             |             |            |              |                |             |            |             |              |               |                |               |
| April 4  | HALIFAX.....           | A      |       |       |            |              |               |              |               |             |             |            |              |                |             |            |             |              |               |                |               |
| April 11 | WIMBLEDON (SF).....    | H      |       |       |            |              |               |              |               |             |             |            |              |                |             |            |             |              |               |                |               |
| April 17 |                        |        |       |       |            |              |               |              |               |             |             |            |              |                |             |            |             |              |               |                |               |
| April 18 | PORT VALE.....         | A      |       |       |            |              |               |              |               |             |             |            |              |                |             |            |             |              |               |                |               |
| April 20 |                        |        |       |       |            |              |               |              |               |             |             |            |              |                |             |            |             |              |               |                |               |
| April 21 | PETERBORO.....         | H      |       |       |            |              |               |              |               |             |             |            |              |                |             |            |             |              |               |                |               |
| April 25 | ROCHDALE.....          | A      |       |       |            |              |               |              |               |             |             |            |              |                |             |            |             |              |               |                |               |
| May 1    | TORQUAY.....           | H      |       |       |            |              |               |              |               |             |             |            |              |                |             |            |             |              |               |                |               |
| May 9    | F.A. CUP FINAL         |        |       |       |            |              |               |              |               |             |             |            |              |                |             |            |             |              |               |                |               |

\*Abandoned half time.

● Substituted

/number denotes scorer





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## COACHING CORNER

By Roly Mills

BALL control is important, of course, and has to be practised constantly in training. This can be made interesting in a variety of ways, and is often turned into a competition.

The simplest is a relay race with the squad divided into teams. Each team should face a line of five or six obstacles, the first about 20 yards from the front man and the others about five feet apart.

The front man has to run to the first obstacle with a ball at his feet, dribble round the obstacles and run back to join his team, still with the ball at his feet. He passes on to the next man and the first team finished wins.

This can be turned into an individual competition with each man dribbling through the obstacles and earning a maximum ten points if he can get through without touching an obstacle within a time limit set by the coach.

Points are deducted for every obstacle touched and then every second taken over the limit.

## Man in the Middle

THE man in charge today is **BRIAN STEVENS** from Stonehouse in Gloucestershire, who has been refereeing since 1963. He started in the Stroud Youth League and moved to the League list through the Stroud, Gloucester County and Western Leagues. He refereed the England v Scotland schoolboy international at Wembley in 1975 and in 1979 the England v Holland schoolboy game as well as the Wales v Eire international.

A married man, he has two daughters and is a quality control supervisor. His hobbies are skittles and tennis. He is referees', secretary of the Stroud and District Youth League.

## NEXT HOME MATCH

Football League Division Four

## HARTLEPOOL

Saturday, February 14th, 1981

Kick-off 3 p.m.

## YOUTH SPOT

THE Cobblers' under-16 side kept their unbeaten record when they went to Silverstone in a Northamptonshire F.A. Invitation Youth Cup clash and won 6-0.

Three of the goals, including two in the first ten minutes, came from Neil Brough with the others going to John Woolgar, Andy Jelley and Gary Hammond.



## 4TH DIVISION SCENE

Our gutsy display at Southend last week enabled us to become the first team to take a point from Roots Hall since Sheffield Wednesday drew 1-1 there at the end of March. Our goalless draw was an exact repeat of the scoreline on the occasion of our last visit to Roots Hall in 1977-78.

Another sequence was broken last week when Wigan became the first team to win at Aldershot since May when, oddly enough, they were also the visitors. **MIKE QUINN's** winner on Saturday was only the third goal conceded by the Shots at the Recreation Ground this season. With three wins and one draw in the course of their last five away games **IAN McNEIL's** side seem to be getting into the stride after a run of just one point from eight away games earlier in the season.

Meanwhile both Fourth Division representatives in the fourth round of the F.A. Cup did the division credit. Though Wimbledon's unbeaten run of seven league and cup games ended at Wrexham they made the home side fight all the way. **DIXIE McNEIL** getting the decisive goal in a 2-1 win. Peterborough went one better with a 1-0 win at Notts County's Meadow Lane on a ground where only one visiting team had won previously this season. **ROBBIE COOKE**, the Division's leading scorer, got the goal. His twenty first of the season, and he hadn't played in league football before August.

In a game between two teams currently contesting fourth place Hartlepool gained a useful 2-1 win at Doncaster last week against a side which had just won four home games in a row. 'Pool have now won two and drawn one of their last three games at the Belle Vue ground and they achieved this particular win despite having striker **BOB NEWTON** sent off — the only player to suffer this indignity on the first Saturday without red cards being used.

At the bottom of the table there are signs of recovery with both Hereford and Halifax winning last week. The goals which **DEREK SHOWERS** and **FRANK McGHEE** netted in Hereford's win at York were the first scored by the club since before Christmas and this was their first away success since the end of last season. Meanwhile Halifax's win over Stockport was only their second in their last fourteen games and attracted over 3,000 fans to The Shay for the first time for over a year.

Crews have slipped a little since the turn of the year, their 2-1 defeat at Lincoln leaving them pointless during this spell, but the goal which **JIMMY GREENHOFF** netted was their first at Sincil Bank in their last four visits there. Though they are obviously missing the opportunity of **MICK HARFORD** since his move to Newcastle the Imps have still currently scored more goals at home than any other club in the Football League.

Mansfield Town meanwhile seem to have found their shooting boots, their 5-0 success over Luton being their highest score since March 1979. **DAVID CALDWELL's** two goals against Vale took his tally into double figures in this, his first season in league football.

Five games without defeat — this was the proud record of Rochdale after their recent 3-1 win over Tranmere. They too have a striker, **BARRY WELLINGS** is close season signing (from York) already in double figures and incredibly after looking likely at one stage to lose their league place last summer they are now on the edge of the promotion race.



FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION FOUR  
Up to and including Saturday 24th January, 1981

|                  | P  | W  | D  | L  | F  | A  | Pts |
|------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Southend United  | 30 | 21 | 3  | 6  | 52 | 19 | 49  |
| Lincoln City     | 28 | 17 | 7  | 4  | 45 | 18 | 41  |
| Mansfield Town   | 30 | 17 | 4  | 9  | 42 | 24 | 38  |
| Hartlepool       | 30 | 14 | 7  | 9  | 45 | 38 | 35  |
| Doncaster Rovers | 30 | 14 | 6  | 10 | 37 | 30 | 34  |
| Peterborough     | 28 | 12 | 9  | 7  | 46 | 31 | 33  |
| Aldershot        | 31 | 13 | 7  | 11 | 29 | 29 | 33  |
| Rochdale         | 30 | 11 | 10 | 9  | 44 | 43 | 30  |
| Darlington       | 29 | 12 | 6  | 11 | 41 | 38 | 30  |
| Bradford City    | 28 | 9  | 11 | 8  | 35 | 37 | 29  |
| Northampton      | 30 | 12 | 6  | 12 | 44 | 50 | 29  |
| Bournemouth      | 31 | 11 | 7  | 13 | 27 | 24 | 29  |
| Wimbledon        | 27 | 12 | 4  | 11 | 37 | 29 | 28  |
| Torquay United   | 29 | 12 | 4  | 13 | 37 | 38 | 28  |
| Wigan Athletic   | 29 | 11 | 6  | 12 | 29 | 35 | 28  |
| Tranmere Rovers  | 29 | 11 | 5  | 13 | 29 | 42 | 27  |
| Crewe Alexandra  | 32 | 8  | 11 | 12 | 36 | 47 | 27  |
| York City        | 30 | 9  | 8  | 13 | 33 | 40 | 26  |
| Swansea City     | 28 | 6  | 13 | 9  | 32 | 36 | 25  |
| Bury             | 29 | 10 | 4  | 15 | 42 | 45 | 24  |
| Stockport County | 30 | 6  | 8  | 16 | 28 | 42 | 24  |
| Halifax Town     | 30 | 6  | 8  | 16 | 32 | 47 | 20  |
| Port Vale        | 28 | 7  | 8  | 14 | 34 | 53 | 20  |
| Hemel United     | 28 | 5  | 9  | 14 | 23 | 43 | 19  |



# LOOKING BACK...

## 30 years

AFTER losing Jack Ansell with a broken leg in the first half, we tumbled to our third defeat in a row, 3-0 at Southend on Saturday February 10, 1961, Jimmy McAlinden, Grand and Stubbs getting the goals and the teams being:

**SOUTHEND:** Coombs; Loughran, Anderson; French, Stirling, Lawler; Sibley, McAlinden, Grant, Stubbs, Davies.

**NORTHAMPTON:** Ansell; Smalley, Southam; Candlin, Hughes, Davie; English, Dixon, Garrett, Murphy, Mitchell. Attendance 11,000.

We were now in mid-table in Division Three (South) while at the top Nottingham Forest lost for only the second time that season, 3-2 at Bournemouth. Their nearest rivals Norwich were involved in an F.A. Cup-tie that day and they did the Third Division proud by making Sunderland fight all the way to beat them 3-1 at Roker Park. Of the other Third Division representatives in round five Mansfield lost 2-0 at Blackpool, but Bristol Rovers advanced to the last eight by beating Second Division Hull 3-0.

There were nearly 70,000 at Stamford Bridge to see Chelsea taken to a replay by Fulham while Newcastle won a thrilling game 4-2 at Stoke and Manchester United just pipped Arsenal 1-0.

## 20 years

AFTER a blank day on February 4, 1961 we gave our promotion hopes a boost a week later by beating Barrow 3-0. All the goals came in the first half with Brown netting twice, one of his goals coming from the penalty spot and Moran getting the other. The teams were:

**NORTHAMPTON:** Coe; Phillips, Claypole; Branston, Gale, Mills; Spelman, Brown, Deakin, Moran, Fowler.

**BARROW:** Heyes; Warburton, Robinson McNab, McEvoy, Webster; Armstrong, Robertson, Howard, Pashley, Hunter.

We were now in third place in Division Four, seven points behind leaders Crystal Palace but with four games in hand and two points behind Peterborough with one game in hand. Posh got the highest score of the day, beating Exeter 7-1 with Terry Bly getting a hat-trick.

In Division One Spurs won at Villa Park to stay eight points clear of Wolves while Sheffield United moved three points ahead of Ipswich in Division Two though Liverpool after a 5-0 win over Orient were now looking menacing in third place, Dave Hickson getting a hat-trick.

## 10 years

WE picked up another useful point at the home of promotion rivals Oldham on February 6, 1971, Frank Large scoring for the fourth game in the last five to level up Barry Hartle's goal for the home side. Teams:

**OLDHAM:** Dowd; Wood, Whittle; Bowie, Cranston, Turner; Bebbington, McNeill, Shaw, Fryatt (Robins), Hartle.

**NORTHAMPTON:** Book; Neal, Brookes; Clarke, Townsend, Kiernan; Felton, McNeil, Large, Gould, Fairbrother. Attendance: 11,000.

This left us two points behind Oldham in second place and five behind Fourth Division leaders Notts County, who dropped a point at Bournemouth with two redoubtable goalscorers finding the net, Tony Hateley for County and Phil Boyer for Bournemouth.

In Division One a John Toshack goal earned Liverpool both points at Leeds though the latter stayed three points clear of Arsenal and nine points clear of third place Chelsea.



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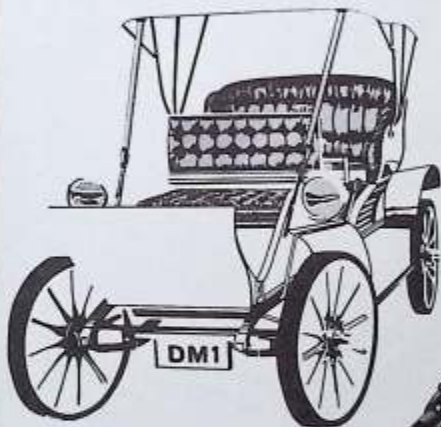


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# TEAM CHECK

## Northampton T.

Colours: White with Maroon trim.

- 1 Andy Poole .....
- 2 Peter Denyer .....
- 3 Phil Sandercock .....
- 4 Kevin Farmer .....
- 5 Dennis Byatt .....
- 6 Keith Williams .....
- 7 David Carlton .....
- 8 Adam Sandy .....
- 9 Steve Phillips .....
- 10 Keith Bowen .....
- 11 Mark Heeley .....
- 12 Gary Saxby .....

## OFFICIALS

REFEREE: B.T. STEVENS  
(Stonehouse, Glos.)

LINESMEN:

H. HAMPSHIRE (Dudley) —  
Red Flag.

J. ASHWORTH (Oakham) —  
Yellow Flag.



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## Wigan Athletic

Colours: Blue & White stripes

- 1 Bob Ward .....
- 2 Dave Fretwell .....
- 3 Steve McAdam .....
- 4 George Urquhart .....
- 5 Colin Methven .....
- 6 Alex Cribley .....
- 7 Dave McMullan .....
- 8 Tony Quinn .....
- 9 Peter Houghton .....
- 10 Bobby Hutchinson .....
- 11 Jeff Wright .....
- 12 Mickey Quinn .....

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